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The Secretary of Defense
Washington

May 4 1956

OSD DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

Dear Allen:

As you know, we have for some months been taking steps to clarify certain of the internal staff relationships within the Office of the Secretary. It is as a part of this reordering that we have now moved the OCB staff function from General Erskine's office to Gordon Gray's.

At the same time, we wish to give more emphasis to the vital intelligence and covert operations activities for which General Erskine's office has always had the policy responsibility.

We feel that by reinsuring the ability of General Erskine's office to concentrate on matters of mutual interest to CIA and Defense and on matters affecting the National Security Agency, we shall be able to arrive at a more effective operation in these very critical areas.

We expect General Erskine's office to provide the Secretary, Gordon Gray, and me with complete staffing on all intelligence activities and unconventional and covert operations matters of concern to the Department of Defense. You will recall my earlier correspondence in which I personally designed Bill Godel as the Defense point of contact to provide me with staff support on NSC5412.

I thought you might be interested in the attached directive which is designed to accomplish the foregoing.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Reuben B. Robertson, Jr.
Deputy Secretary of Defense

1 Incl

Honorable Allen Dulles

Director of Central Intelligence

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